

J. A. Hamilton. A tree native to Queensland; the hard dark brown wood with red markings, resembles that of the American walnut. It is an excellent wood for the joiner or cabinetmaker, and is also suitable for turnery. (Adapted from Maiden, Useful Native Plants of Australia, p. 599.)

Polymnia edulis (Asteraceae), 52894. From Aulnay-sous-Bois, France. Tubers presented by Prof. R. de Noter, Ecole d'Acclimatation et de Recherches Agricoles. "A strong herbaceous plant, very decorative with its tall stalks 1.5 m. high, beautiful foliage, and yellow, autumnal flowers. The numerous, clustered, clean tubers are white, almost transparent, very sweet, and taste somewhat like a pear. They are eaten raw in their native country where they are keenly relished. The leaves, stalks, and tubers are greedily eaten by animals. The enormous quantity of sugar in the tubers yields three times as much alcohol as can be distilled from the Irish potato. Molasses can also be made from the tubers. A half-decayed tuber grew a plant which bore thirty-two tubers 15 to 20 cm. long, weighing 3 kg.

"This hardy plant occurs wild, and is also cultivated, in the Andes Mountains. In Algeria irrigation is necessary. In any case, half of the foliage can be used during the summer for feed. At harvest the tubers are stored in a cellar. The plant is easily lifted from the soil and is superior to the Jerusalem artichoke and the sunflower in that it leaves nothing behind." (de Noter.)

Prunus armeniaca (Amygdalaceae), 52914. **Apricot.** From Aleppo, Syria. Seeds presented by Mr. Digby A. Willson, vice consul in charge. "The apricot grown in the Harput (Kharpoot) district is recognized to be the most luscious and most sought-for noncitrus fruit in the Near East. In order that growers may understand the climate under which the Harput apricot is cultivated, the following information is given:

"The city of Harput is situated at about the same altitude as Denver, Colorado, and is slightly more than 5,000 feet above the sea level. During the summer, which is very hot, little water is found in the district owing to the entire lack of rain in the summer months, but the winter is extremely cold and snow storms are not infrequent. The apricot trees usually grow throughout the city in the various gardens which are irrigated from small streams supplying sufficient